

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR STUDENT SERVICES CONTRACT

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Research and Development
National Health and Environmental Effects Laboratory
Integrated Systems Toxicology Division
RFQ-RT-10-00107**

The Office of Research and Development (ORD) at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking individuals, at least 18 years of age, who have completed B.S. or equivalent degree in chemistry, biochemistry, biology, marine biology, psychology or related field from a accredited college or university with the past two years to provide services under a contractual agreement to assist with the following projects: Using a zebrafish toxicity assay to assess development toxicity.

The student contractor will perform the fish exposure studies as well as assess the fish for toxic endpoints. Many of these endpoints will be assessed using automated analyzers. The student contractor will also collate all data and verify the accuracy of all data that is collected.

The level of academic education needed should include course work such as chemistry, embryology, vertebrate development, or animal development. The preferred student shall have experience working with fish and/or fish embryos. The student contractor shall have experience in working in teams.

This contract is projected to begin, depending upon the availability of the selected student contractor, approximately May 2010. The initial contract will be for a period of 12 months from the start date and represents a not-to-exceed 1145 hours of effort. There will be an option to continue for an additional 12 months, not-to-exceed 1145 hours. It is anticipated that the student contractor will work approximately 20-30 hours per week. The majority of the work will be Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The principal duty location is Integrated Systems Toxicology Division, EPA Main Campus, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. The student may enter the building only during business hours or when a project member is present. Work will be primarily performed in a research laboratory.

U.S. citizens are eligible to participate in this program. Non-U.S. citizens may be eligible to participate, depending on their immigration status and the applicable regulations of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). All non-US citizens must submit, as part of their proposal package, evidence of their immigration status that allows them to work in the United States.

EPA ORD employees, their spouses, and children are NOT eligible to participate in this program and receive these contracts.

The hourly rate is commensurate with the minimum required level of education and experience, as follows: \$21.84 per hour for a student who has completed a Bachelor's Degree. Student contractors will be paid the basic hourly rate only for the number of hours worked and do not receive overtime premium. Student contractors do not accrue leave or holiday benefits and are not paid for any non-work days, regardless of the reason. Federal, State, Local, and Social Security taxes will not be withheld; student/recent graduate contractors are responsible for

reporting income to authorities and paying all taxes. Offerors must be students or recent graduates (within last 24 months) of a degree program at an accredited university.

Interested students may apply for this opportunity by providing a one or two-page (excluding the copy of the transcript and documentary evidence from USCIS if appropriate) resume or statement of qualifications, including:

- Full legal name
- Mailing address
- E-Mail address
- Telephone number
- Date of Birth
- Place of Birth
- Citizenship or immigration/visa status (documentary evidence from BCIS)
- Description of recent classes relevant to the Statement of Work
- Work experience (paid or volunteer) related to scientific field(s) listed in SOW
- Laboratory work experience (if applicable to these services); and
- Two letters of recommendation

Additionally, students must submit a statement indicating the student proposes the applicable hourly rate of \$21.84 in order to have an acceptable proposal. A student or recent graduate must also include two letters of recommendation from an academic advisor, major professor, or other professional associate familiar with the applicant's skills and performance. Attach a copy of all of your college/university transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable, if it is apparent from the transcript copy that is a copy of an official document and that the school is identified), listing courses taken, grades and overall GPA. Send your resume or statement of qualifications, transcripts, recommendation letter and rate acceptance statement to Jeff Clodfelter, Contract Specialist, via email at Clodfelter.Jeffery@epa.gov or fax to: (919) 685-3008. The submission deadline will be listed at the website shown below.

Prior to applying for this position, you should visit the EPA solicitation web page at http://www.epa.gov/oam/rtp_cmd to learn the full details of the proposed contract. Please follow the link to under the solicitation "Student Services RFQ-RT-10-00107" and read all of the attached documents. This website should be visited periodically to check the status of this procurement and to see whether or not any amendments (changes to the requirement of the posted position) have been issued. If you have any questions on the information contained on this website, contact Jeff Clodfelter, Contract Specialist, via email at Clodfelter.Jeffery@epa.gov

The Government will make contract award(s) based on the student's work experience, knowledge and skills, training and course work as it relates to the services as described in the Announcement. Please check the evaluation factors document on the website mentioned in the previous paragraph. Students who perform under contract for EPA will be required to undergo a background check, check of FBI fingerprint files and a suitability determination by the Environmental Protection Agency. Personal interviews may be conducted with the most promising candidates.

Questions regarding this student contract should be directed to the contract specialist Jeff

Clodfelter, at Clodfelter.Jeffery@epa.gov. Questions regarding the technical aspects of the contracted duties and responsibilities should be directed to Dr. Stephanie Padilla the EPA technical mentor, Padilla.stephanie@epa.gov or by calling (919) 541-3956.